Smuggling of contraband

2579. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:
SHRI IQBAL SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of major contrabands seized during 1990 to 1993;

(b) persons prosecuted under COFEPOSA; and

(c) steps taken to check smuggling of contrabands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) and (b). Details of major contrabands seized under the Customs Act 1962 during 1990 to 1993 are given below:

Details of contrabands	1990 (Value in Rs. Lakhs)	1991 (Value in Rs. lakhs)	1992 (Value in Rs. lakhs)	1993 (upto July, 93) (Value in Rs. lakhs)
Gold	19235	13002	12645	2339
Silver	14956	13329	13125	2333
Electronic goods	2345	5625	2572	2229
Foreign Currency	339	1324	1352	921
Dangerous drugs	2513	2189	2039	509
Synthetic fabric	528	277	310	91
Vehicles/Vessels	16989	17888	5421	347

Number of persons detained under COFEPOSA Act, 1974 are as follows :

Year	No. of persons detained
1990	749
1991	751
1992	428
1993 (upto June, 1993)	152

(c) Anti-smuggling agencies are alert against smuggling activities. Customs formations have been equipped with vessels, vehicles, fire arms etc. and the requirements are constantly reviewed. Equipments such as baggage X-ray machines, metal detectors and night vision binoculars are being increasingly utilised. Close co-ordination is being maintained among all the agencies concerned in the detection and prevention of smuggling.

Liberalisation of trade

2580. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:
SHRI IQBAL SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Finance Minister has communicated to the World Bank that Government will further liberalise Trade and Investment;

(b) if so, whether the reform process will be extended to other important sectors of our economy such as Agriculture, Power, etc., and

(c) if so, what are the details of reforms that will be made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE